

the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a Future-Years Veterans Program and a quadrennial veterans review, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a Chief Strategy Officer, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Robert D. Snyder, Acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Policy and Planning, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a markup on H.R. 2086, the "Pay As You Rate Act"; H.R. 2189, to establish a commission or task force to evaluate the backlog of disability claims of the Department of Veterans Affairs; and H.R. 2423, the "Disabled Veterans' Access to Medical Exams Improvement Act". The following bills were forwarded, as amended: H.R. 2086; H.R. 2189; and H.R. 2423.

DELAY OF THE EMPLOYER MANDATE PENALTIES AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on the Obama Administration's recent decision to delay the information reporting requirements and penalties associated with the employer mandate in the Affordable Care Act until 2015. Testimony was heard from J. Mark Iwry, Senior Advisor to the Secretary and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Retirement and Health Policy, Department of the Treasury.

WHAT REALLY WORKS: EVALUATING CURRENT EFFORTS TO HELP FAMILIES SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN AND ESCAPE POVERTY

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Human Resources held a hearing entitled "What Really Works: Evaluating Current Efforts to Help Families Support their Children and Escape Poverty". Testimony was heard from Kristen Cox, Executive Director, Utah Governor's Office of Management and Budget; and public witnesses.

ONGOING INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Ongoing Intelligence Activities". This was a closed hearing.

Joint Meetings

AUTHORITARIANISM IN AZERBAIJAN

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: On Tuesday, July 16, 2013, Commission received a briefing on growing authoritarianism in Azerbaijan,

focusing on current events in Azerbaijan and the prospect for a free and fair election, after receiving testimony from Thomas Melia, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor; Elin Suleymanov, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United States, and Miriam Lansky, National Endowment for Democracy, both of Washington, D.C.; and Erkin Gadimli, Republican Alternative, Samad Seyidov, National Assembly of Azerbaijan, and Eldar Namavoz, National Council of Democratic Forces of Azerbaijan, all of Baku, Azerbaijan.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: business meeting to markup proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies and the Department of Homeland Security, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of General Martin E. Dempsey, USA for reappointment to the grade of general and reappointment as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Admiral James A. Winnefeld, Jr., USN for reappointment to the grade of admiral and reappointment as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, both of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of Melvin L. Watt, of North Carolina, to be Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, Jason Furman, of New York, to be Member and Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Kara Marlene Stein, of Maryland, Michael Sean Piwowar, of Virginia, and Mary Jo White, of New York, all to be Members of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and Richard T. Metsger, of Oregon, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to Congress, 10:30 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the current state of clean energy finance in the United States and opportunities to facilitate greater investment in domestic clean energy technology development and deployment, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine climate change, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of F. Scott Kieff, of Illinois, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission, 2:30 p.m., SD-215.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider the nominations of Todd M. Hughes, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Colin Stirling Bruce, to be United States

District Judge for the Central District of Illinois, Sara Lee Ellis, and Andrea R. Wood, each to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, Madeline Hughes Haikala, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama, and James B. Comey, Jr., of Connecticut, to be Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Full Committee, markup on the Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill for FY 2014, 11 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, hearing entitled "Reporting Data Breaches: Is Federal Legislation Needed to Protect Consumers?", 11 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: Implementation in the Wake of Administrative Delay", 1:30 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "A Legislative Proposal to Protect American Taxpayers and Homeowners by Creating a Sustainable Housing Finance System", 1 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled "Global al-Qaeda: Affiliates, Objectives, and Future Challenges", 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled "Is There an African Resource Curse?", 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies, hearing entitled "Oversight of Executive Order 13636 and Development of the Cybersecurity Framework", 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, hearing entitled "The Voting Rights Act after the Supreme Court's Decision in Shelby County", 11 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, markup on H.R. 2122, the "Regulatory Accountability Act of 2013"; and H.R. 2641, the "Responsibly and Professionally Invigorating Development Act of 2013", 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The IRS's Systematic Delay and Scrutiny of Tea Party Applications", 11 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Job Creation and Regulatory Affairs, hearing entitled "Regulatory Burdens: The Impact of Dodd-Frank on Community Banking", 8:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Health Care and Entitlements, hearing entitled "Examining the Obama Ad-

ministration's Social Cost of Carbon Estimates", 2:30 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2687, the "National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2013", 11:15 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Energy and Trade, hearing entitled "The President's Climate Action Plan: What Is the Impact on Small Businesses?", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 185, to designate the United States courthouse located at 101 East Pecan Street in Sherman, Texas, as the "Paul Brown United States Courthouse"; H.R. 579, to designate the United States courthouse located at 501 East Court Street in Jackson, Mississippi, as the "R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse"; H.R. 2251, to designate the United States courthouse located at 118 South Mill Street, in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, as the "Edward J. Devitt United States"; H.R. 1961, to amend title 46, United States Code, to extend the exemption from the fire-retardant materials construction requirement for vessels operating within the Boundary Line; H.R. 2352, to amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to the operation of vehicles on certain Wisconsin highways, and for other purposes; and other matters cleared for consideration, 11:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, markup on H.R. 2210, the "Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship Improvements Act of 2013"; H.R. 2327, the "Veterans Economic Opportunity Administration Act of 2013"; H.R. 331, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to permit the centralized reporting of veteran enrollment by certain groups, districts, and consortiums of educational institutions; H.R. 1357, to amend the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 to improve the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program by providing assistance under such program for certain training programs that are considered less than full-time; H.R. 1842, the "Military Family Home Protection Act"; H.R. 2011, the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education Improvement Act of 2013; H.R. 2150, the "Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Programs Reauthorization Act of 2013"; and H.R. 2481, the "Veterans G.I. Bill Enrollment Clarification Act of 2013", 11 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, hearing on President Obama's trade policy agenda with U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman, 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, hearing on Member Access Requests, 10 a.m., HVC-304. This is a closed hearing.

Full Committee, hearing entitled "Ongoing Intelligence Activities", 10:45 a.m., HVC-304. This is a closed hearing.